

In the Claims:

Please amend pending Claims 17, 21-25, 30, 31 and 33-35, and delete, without prejudice, Claims 18-20, 26-29, 32, 36 and 37, as shown in the Listing of Claims below, which is a complete listing of all Claims ever presented and replaces all prior versions, and listings, of the Claims in the instant Application.

Listing of Claims

1-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) ~~An A mineral oil-free~~ emollient mixture which comprises~~[[,]] at least one ester selected from the group consisting of esters of a C₈₋₁₈ fatty acid with a C₂₋₁₂ alcohol and the esters of adipic acid with a C₂₋₁₂ alcohol;~~ ethyl hexyl cocoate and a poly- α -olefin, wherein the content of the ester ethyl hexyl cocoate is between 10% and 90%, by weight, based on the total quantity of ester ethyl hexyl cocoate and poly- α -olefin.

18-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) ~~An The mineral oil-free~~ emollient mixture as ~~claimed in claim according to Claim~~ 17, wherein~~[[,]]~~ the poly- α -olefin comprises a hydrogenated poly- α -olefin.

22. (Currently amended) The mineral oil-free emollient mixture as ~~claimed in claim according to Claim~~ 17, wherein~~[[,]]~~ the poly- α -olefin comprises an oligomer.

23. (Currently amended) The mineral oil-free emollient mixture as ~~claimed in claim according to Claim~~ 17, wherein the poly- α -olefin has a kinetic viscosity at 100°C of 1-to-100 cSt.

24. (Currently amended) The mineral oil-free emollient mixture as ~~claimed in claim according to Claim~~ 17, wherein~~[[,]]~~ a ~~the~~ content of the ester ethyl hexyl cocoate is 20-to-80%, by weight, based on the total quantity of ester ethyl hexyl cocoate and poly- α -olefin.

25. (Currently amended) The mineral oil-free emollient mixture ~~as claimed in claim~~ according to Claim 17, which consists of ~~an ester~~ ethyl hexyl cocoate and a poly- α -olefin.

26-29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently amended) The mineral oil-free emollient mixture ~~as claimed in claim 26 according to Claim 17~~, wherein[[,]] the an additional emollient is present in a quantity of 0.1-to-50%, by weight, based on the total quantity of ester ethyl hexyl cocoate and poly- α -olefin.

31. (Currently amended) A cosmetic composition comprising the mineral oil-free emollient mixture ~~claimed in claim~~ according to Claim 17 as a mineral oil substitute.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently amended) The mineral oil-free emollient mixture ~~as claimed in claim~~ according to Claim 22, wherein[[,]] the poly- α -olefin comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of a dimer of 1-decene and a dimer of 1-dodecene.

34. (Currently amended) The mineral oil-free emollient mixture ~~of claim~~ according to Claim 23, wherein the poly- α -olefin has a kinematic viscosity at 100°C of from 15-to-40 cSt.

35. (Currently amended) The mineral oil-free emollient mixture ~~to claim~~ according to Claim 24, wherein[[,]] the content of ester ethyl hexyl cocoate is from 25%-to-75%, by weight.

36-37. (Canceled)